

STATE UNIVERSITIES CIVIL SERVICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
QUARTERLY MEETING January 22-23, 2015 at
State Universities Civil Service System Office 1717 Philo Rd., Suite 24, Urbana, IL 61802

Chair Andy Small called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was present.

Present: Michael Aper, Jack Chavez, Larry Curtis, Michael Diiacova, Gary Fry, Ann Jaso, Darlene Kendall, Kim Kirchner, Cris Milliken, LaTania Milner, Mark Murphy, Michael Pulley, Denise Rothenbach, Peter Skrypkun, Andy Small, and Anthony Travelstead.

Absent: Julie Benedict-excused, Rick Marr-excused.

Each member introduced themselves to the incoming new members: Ms. Mindy Conlee-Stevens, SIU School of Medicine; Mr. Jamie Voyles, University of Illinois at Springfield; Mr. William Ramm, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and new systems office staff members: Gavin Earp and Tonya Koets.

New members were seated. The Oath was read aloud by the full committee.

Outgoing members Cristina Milliken, SIU School of Medicine and Denise Rothenbach, University of Illinois at Springfield were recognized for their years of service and presented plaques by Chair Andy Small.

Minutes: Michael Pulley motioned to approve the minutes of the October, 2014 quarterly meeting. Gary Fry seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Motion Carried.

Mike Aper	Aye	Ann Jaso	Aye	LaTania Milner	Aye
Julie Benedict		Darlene Kendall	Aye	Mark Murphy	Aye
Jack Chavez	Aye	Kim Kirchner	Aye	Michael Pulley	Aye
Larry Curtis	Aye	Rick Marr		Denise Rothenbach	Aye
Michael Diiacova	Aye	Cris Milliken	Aye	Peter Skrypkun	Aye
Gary Fry	Aye			Andy Small	Aye
				Anthony Travelstead	Aye

Report of Executive Committee: No report

Electronic voting vs. paper voting was discussed. The hope of electronic voting is to increase number of voters. WIU held a paper ballot election with only 16 voters. Providing staff at two locations was not cost effective. Chair Small encouraged members to promote electronic voting.

The topic of attending EAC meetings by other means was discussed. Michael Pulley offered to check with Mari Martinelli re: legal aspects.

The Executive Committee is to meet prior to the April EAC meeting to discuss SUCSAC bylaws relating to remote attendance. A recommendation to the full committee will be presented at the April meeting. Clarification is needed of excused/unexcused absences and removal procedures in the SUCSAC Member Manual.

Report of Legislative Committee: No report - Peter will send new members links re: legislation.

Report of Election Committee: - Denise Rothenbach

Special elections were held at UIS and UIUC resulting in new members Voyles and Ramm. UIUC has one additional seat to fill on the committee. Another election will be held. Next year four elections will need to be conducted. Denise will pass electronic files on to the new parliamentarian.

Report of Chair: - Andy Small

Andy read duties and responsibilities from the members' manual. The importance of attending meetings was stressed and instruction given for the Executive Committee to discuss at a called meeting to be held on same day as an upcoming Merit Board meeting. Attending Merit Board meetings was encouraged and it was noted they are broadcast via video at SIUC, UIC, and SUCSS office. Mari Martinelli was consulted re: Open Meetings Act.

Report of Director:

An update was given on rule change proposal – 250.50 (residency). Out of state applicants will be able to apply for professional and semi-pro classes. The first notice will be presented to J-Car soon. It was explained that some classes require more specialties which makes them harder to recruit candidates.

Exemption procedures were explained to new members and how this has been an ongoing debate for years. Campuses want to retain control over exemptions. There have been no further modifications.

The Demonstration Project was defined for new members regarding the Rule of Three. The top three banded scores are referred not just top three people. This is to provide a larger applicant pool.

The Class plan update was given. There is a possibility of eliminating typing tests. A memo was sent to universities requesting comments. The police exam hopefully will be finished by the end of the fiscal year. Several classes will possibly be deleted or consolidated with others. Status notices will be forthcoming.

The audit process was explained to new members. An update on audits was given for SIU-SOM, SURS, ISAC, and College of Medicine- Rockford. Upcoming audits will be performed for ISU, CSU, EIU, SUCSS, and UIUC.

The Legal Update informed us that there have been 33 written discharges. Ten have gone to hearings. One withdrew before hearing. One the university withdrew after the hearing. One resigned before hearing. One resigned after hearing. Six are pending.

The budget update forecasts a bad year. A 20% budget reduction has been proposed.

***SATE UNIVERSITIES CIVIL SERVICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
QUARTERLY MEETING – January 23, 2015***

Chair Andy Small called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was present.

Present: Michael Aper, Jack Chavez, Mindy Conlee-Stevens, Larry Curtis, Michael Diiacova, Gary Fry, Ann Jaso, Darlene Kendall, Kim Kirchner, Rick Marr, LaTania Milner, Michael Pulley, William Ramm, Peter Skrypkun, Andy Small, Anthony Travelstead, and Jamie Voyles.

Absent: Julie Benedict-excused, Mark Murphy-excused.

SURS Report -Larry Curtis

Uncertainty is the word around SURS. Many changes are expected to occur under the new governor. Five trustees are to change on the Board of Trustees. Eleven total changes have occurred at the agency. The search to replace Director Bill Mabe has been narrowed to four candidates. The chief legal counsel is retiring. The legislative liaison left and has been replaced by Kristen Howe.

The budget has been cut 20%. Many employees are expected to retire. Legal matters are ongoing for refunds to annuitants for health ins. premium refunds. Plaintiffs in the case have asked for an extension. Annuitants can opt-out of the lawsuit.

The rate of interest decreased $\frac{1}{2}\%$ from 7.75 to 7.25. Currently under the general formula an employee must work 36 years to receive 80% of final rate of earnings. Under money purchase formula, one must work 28 years. The money purchase formula won't be beneficial in 5-8 years. A $\frac{1}{2}\%$ reduction for the assumed rate of interest is expected 1/4/2016.

Another surge in retirements is expected this fall. The actuarial table will change. There is talk of a Tier 3 retirement plan. Governor Rauner has mentioned freezing the traditional and portable plans. There are 3,000 annuitant employees costing SURS to lose \$8,000,000. PA98-1144 proposes an annuitant receiving an annual annuity of less than \$10,000 would be exempt from Affected Annuitant status. Current Affected Annuitants annuities will be cut going back to date of retirement.

The biggest problems facing SURS are the state being underfunded, the rehire retiree program, and annuities based upon last four years' wages. An employee could have made \$20,000 annually for 20 years and \$60,000 the last four years.

Election of Officers -

Chair – Andy Small, NIU

Vice-chair – Michael Pulley, SIUE

Secretary – Kim Kirchner, UIC DSCC

Parliamentarian – Jamie Voyles

Executive Committee – Michael Pulley (Chair), Gary Fry (Secretary), Rick Marr, Peter Skrypkun, Anthony Travelstead, Jamie Voyles (Parliamentarian), and Andy Small(Ex-officio).

Legislative Committee – Peter Skrypkun (Chair), Ann Jaso, Mark Murphy, and Anthony Travelstead

Election Committee – Andy Small, Michael Pulley, Kim Kirchner, Gary Fry, and Jamie Voyles.

Meeting Dates 2015 – Michael Pulley motioned and Jamie Voyles seconded to confirm meeting dates and locations listed below. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried.

April 16-17, 2015 Governor's State

July 16-17, 2015 University of IL at Chicago

October 14-15, 2015 Illinois State University (to coincide with Council of Councils 10/16)

Mike Aper	Aye	LaTania Milner	Aye	
Jack Chavez	Aye	Mark Murphy		
Mindy Conlee-Stevens	Aye	Michael Pulley	Aye	
Larry Curtis	Aye	William Ramm	Aye	
Michael Diiacova	Aye	Andy Small	Aye	
Gary Fry	Aye	Anthony Travelstead	Aye	
Ann Jaso	Aye	Jamie Voyles	Aye	
Darlene Kendall	Aye			
Kim Kirchner	Aye			
Rick Marr	Aye			

Other Items as Presented –

Concerns were expressed with budget cuts resulting in lay-offs. An increase in hiring extra help positions presents the problems of those employees not paying into SURS. These employees usually do not receive benefits. SIU-C pays benefits for extra help employees working 30 hours per week. Privatized housing is also a concern.

President Obama's idea for free tuition at community colleges was discussed.

Enrollment is up at ISU and SIU-C. This is believed to be due to good marketing and recruitment.

UIS has had an increase in international students.

Enrollment is down at NIU. Employees have received one raise in six years. A consulting firm has been hired to aid in generating revenue.

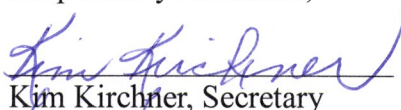
SIU-C employees are to get furlough days paid back.

Members were encouraged to get involved in campus governance.

The next merit board meeting is 02/25/2015.

Rick Marr motioned to adjourn. Mike Aper seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,


Kim Kirchner, Secretary


Andy Small, Chair